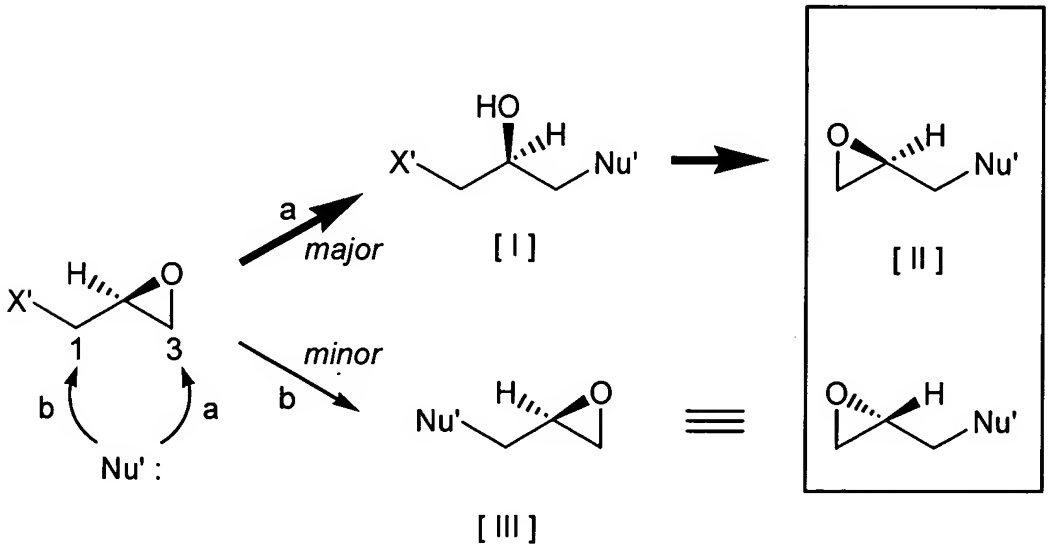
Amendments to the Specification

Page 1, please replace the paragraph spanning line 15 through page 2, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

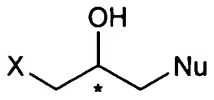
However, most of the methods relate to a process for preparation of a racemic glycidyl compound starting from a racemic epihalohydrin. The preparation methods for an optically active gycidyl compound ~~staring~~ starting from an optically active epihalohydrin were not reported in plenty. One of the reasons is because there is no significant difference in activity between the active positions on epihalohydrin, namely halogenomethylene at position 1 and the terminal position on epoxy ring at position 3 and therefore, it is not easy to handle it. Namely, as shown in the following reaction scheme, in reaction with a ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic substance, it is considered that ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic reaction shown by route a theoretically precedes to give a compound [I] or [II], but practically, thus specificity or selectivity is not complete and therefore, the reaction shown by route b also occurs to give a compound ~~[III]~~[III] in small amount as a side product. As a result, optical purity of the object compound [II] decreases.



wherein X' is halogen atom and Nu' is a residue of ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic substance.

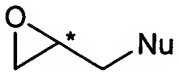
Page 4, please replace the paragraphs spanning line 2 through page 3, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

Namely, the present invention relates to a process for preparing regioselectively an optically active 1-halogeno-2-hydroxypropyl compound of the following formula;



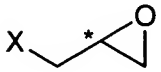
(4)

wherein X is halogen atom and Nu is a heteroatom having a substituent,
and an optically active glycidyl compound of the formula;



(5)

wherein Nu is the same as define the above,
which comprises reacting an optically active epihalohydrin of the formula;

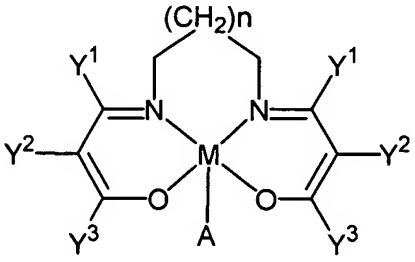


(1)

wherein X is halogen,
with a ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic agent of the formula;

Nu-Q (3)

wherein Q is hydrogen atom or silicon having a substituent and Nu is the same as defined above,
in the presence of a metal complex of the formula;



(2)

wherein n is an integer of 0, 1 or 2, Y^1, Y^2 and Y^3 are the same or different, hydrogen atom, halogen atom, nitro group, alkyl group optionally substituted, aryl group optionally substituted, acyl group, or alkoxycarbonyl group, and Y^1 and Y^2, or Y^2 and Y^3,

taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, may form a ring, A is a counterion and M is a metal ion,

and further subjecting the compound (4) to reaction with a base to prepare the optically active glycidyl compound (5).

The present invention is explained in more detail as follows.

First the step to prepare an optically active 1-halogeno-2-hydroxypropyl compound (4) by reacting an optically active epihalohydrin (1) with a ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic agent (3) in the presence of a metal complex (2) as catalyst is explained.

Page 10, please replace the paragraphs spanning line 5 through page 11, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

The examples of substituents shown by Nu in a ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic agent of the formula (3) are not limited as long as they are heteroatoms having a substituent, but for example ones having a substituent, such as alkyl optionally substituted, aralkyl optionally substituted, aryl optionally substituted, alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted, aralkylcarbonyl optionally substituted or arylcarbonyl optionally substituted, on heteroaroms, such as oxygen atom, sulfur atom, selenium atom, nitrogen atom, phosphorus atom or arsenic atom, are illustrated. Examples of substituents shown by Q are hydrogen atom, and straight or branched alkylsilyl group, such as trimethylsilyl, triethylsilyl or triisopropylsilyl.

Preferable ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic agents (3) are shown by the following formula (7):

R-OH

wherein R is hydrogen atom, straight, branched or cyclic alkyl group, straight, branched or cyclic alkylcarbonyl group, aralkyl group optionally substituted, aralkylcarbonyl group optionally substituted, aryl group optionally substituted or arylcarbonyl group optionally substituted.

Examples of substituents shown by R are hydrogen atom, straight, branched or cyclic alkyl, such as methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl, aralkyl group optionally substituted, such as benzyl, 3-bromobenzyl or 4-methoxybenzyl, aryl group

optionally substituted, such as phenyl, tolyl, 4-fluorophenyl or 2-allyloxyphenyl, alkylcarbonyl group optionally substituted, such as acetyl, propionyl, butyryl or pivaloyl, or aralkylcarbonyl group optionally substituted, such as phenylacetyl or 2-bromophenylacetyl, and arylcarbonyl group optionally substituted, such as benzoyl, 2,4,6-trimethylbenzoyl or 4-phenylbenzoyl.

The amount of the ~~neucleophilic~~ nucleophilic agent is 0.5-2.0 mole, preferably 0.8-1.2 mole to the optically active epihalohydrin (1).

Page 14, please replace the paragraph spanning line 10 through page 15, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The water-insoluble solvent can be used as two phase reaction with an aqueous solvent containing a base. However in case of containing carbonyl group in Nu of the compound (4), the compound is not used because the compound is hydrolyzed. The bases contained in the aqueous solvent include alkali or alkaline earth metal hydroxides, such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or calcium hydroxide, and alkali or alkaline earth metal carbonates, such as sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate or calcium carbonate, preferably sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide. Furthermore, in case of the two phase reaction, the reaction is remarkably promoted by addition of phase transfer catalyst. The phase transfer catalyst includes quaternary ammonium salts, such as tetrabutylammonium chloride, tetrabutylammonium bromide, benzyltrimethylammonium bromide, benzyltriethylammonium chloride, benzyltributylammonium chloride, methyltrioctylammonium chloride, tetraoctylammonium bromide or ~~N-benzylchinium~~ N-benzylquininium chloride, quaternary phosphonium salts, such as tetrabutylphosphonium chloride, tetrabutylphosphonium bromide, tetraphenylphosphonium chloride, tetraphenylphosphonium bromide, benzyltriphenylphosphonium chloride or benzyltriphenylphosphonium bromide, and crown ethers, such as 12-crown-4, 15-crown-5 or 18-crown-6. The amount is 0.1 to 10 mole % to a substrate.

Page 22, please replace the heading on line 7 with the following rewritten heading:

Preparation of ~~(R)-glycidylphenyl~~ (R)-glycidylmethyl ether